



Know It!

an e-news service for our partners from the Howard County Tourism Team



Connect It

Partner Networking Event
Behind the Scenes Peek at [Rep Stage](#)
Wednesday, March 18
5 - 7 pm (Tour begins at 5:45 pm)

Guests at this networking event will be treated to a fascinating guided tour of the newly renovated Horowitz Center at Howard Community College. See how the creative artists at Rep Stage make the magic happen! Join us for wine and appetizers provided by [The Wine Bin](#) and [Aida Bistro](#).

Event is free but space is limited; registration is requested by [email](#) or phone (410-313-1900). Table space is also available for partners to display marketing material. Please let us know if you would like to reserve space when you make your reservation.

PARTNERS ARE THINKING PINK for CHERRYBRATION DAYS in APRIL!

Welcome Spring and celebrate the blossoming of Howard County's 1,300 Blossoms of Hope Kwanzan cherry trees! **April Cherrybration Days** will see many partners taking advantage of the annual pink display to give back to the community:

Fifteen restaurants are placing "PINK PLATE SPECIALS" on their menus to raise cancer awareness... Turf Valley Resort is the site for the inaugural "PINK GREENS" Golf Classic and a "PRETTY IN PINK" ladies luncheon and fashion show... Merchants on Main Street in Historic Ellicott City are taking great pains to create "PINK PANES" for their windows... The Wine Bin in Ellicott City has designated Blossoms as its charity for the month of April and is planning a "DRINK PINK" wine tasting ... Historic Savage Mill is presenting "PINK-A-PALOOZA, with artists there creating pink art for a benefit auction... Howard County Library is hosting FREE "LANTERNS OF HOPE" workshops for the community in preparation for the luminary procession at the Lakefront in Columbia on April 24... The Shrine of St. Anthony's will play

IMPORTANT LEGISLATIVE ALERT

Maryland Office of Tourism, Film and the Arts

Last week, the Maryland Office of Tourism, Film and the Arts budget hearings took place in both the Senate and the House of Delegates. The Governor's budget recommended the mandated \$6 million for the Maryland Tourism Development Board's marketing and advertising budget; however, in order to make the budget balance, the Budget Reconciliation act reduces that budget to \$4.9 million. Over the past several years, we have seen tourism grow far faster than any other industry. In 2001, \$8.5 billion was spent by tourists visiting our great state. In 2006, that number grew to \$11.5 billion and today we are the recipients of \$13 billion in tourist spending - an increase of nearly \$5 billion in 8 years.

Find your legislators using a street address.

<http://mdelect.net/>

Send E-Mail to a Legislator:

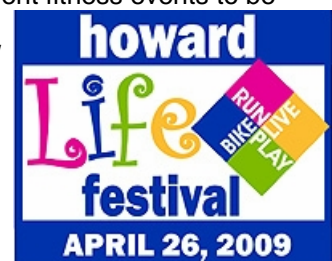
<http://mlis.state.md.us/mgaweb/mail32.aspx>

RUN, BIKE, PLAY, LIVE PINK at the Howard LIFE Festival!

Spring is just around the corner and now's the time to renew your commitment to health & fitness. You can start by registering today for one of the six different fitness events to be featured at

Tricolumbia's NEW Howard LIFE Festival to be held in downtown Columbia on SUNDAY, APRIL 26, 2009. This event, organized

by Tourism Partner [Columbia Triathlon Association](#) is being presented as part of **Howard County Tourism's Blossoms of Hope CHERRYBRATION DAYS** celebration and will benefit both Blossoms of Hope and the [Ulman Cancer Fund](#). Click [here](#) for more information and to register.



HALF-MARATHON RACE DAY

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Looking for a great teambuilding activity for

host to "An Afternoon of Hope & Healing,"... New at Savage Mill, Terrapin Adventures will help raise money by encouraging its customers to "PLAY PINK" by tying pink ribbons to its adventure climbing tower... and The Columbia Triathlon Association is presenting the new Howard LIFE Festival featuring the BLOSSOMS OF HOPE HALF-MARATHON.

In addition, many public groups are involved in helping our endeavors including Howard County General Hospital, Recreation & Parks, Public Works, The Columbia Association, The Columbia Art Center, The Cedar Lane School, Reservoir High School Arts Honor Society, The Little Patuxent Review, and the Howard County Forestry Board.

Thanks to all of these partners for doing their part and recognizing that goodwill toward the community is good business!

FOR DATES and complete information:



Calendar of Events

March 29
Taste For Life Winetasting
10 Oaks Ballroom
Proceeds benefit [American Cancer Society](#)

April 3 & 4
"Ye Haunted History of Olde Ellicott City"
Ghost Tour Season Opens
Fridays and Saturdays April - November
[Reservations](#)

April 4
GreenFest 2009
GreenFest, Howard County's annual kick-off to Earth Month
Howard Community College
www.howardcountyisgreen.com

April 4 & 5
Spring Opening Weekend
[Clark's Elioak Farm](#)

April 25
[Bob's BMW](#) Motorcycles Annual Open House
Music, food, seminars and specials
9 am - 4 pm

April 25
Annual Celebration of the Arts
Benefits the [Howard County Arts Council](#)

your business or organization? We need volunteer teams to staff water stations for Tricolumbia's Blossoms of Hope Half Marathon on Sunday, April 26, 2009. Show your organization's team spirit and zest for life by adopting a water stop station. CREATIVITY WELCOME! All groups will receive free t-shirts and a sponsor sign. Call 410-313-1900 for more information.

Tourism's "On-the-Go Welcome Center": Join Us!

If you've been to any major Howard County event, you've see the bright red pop-up tent that serves as our on-site Welcome Center.

Are you looking for an affordable and effective way to greet hundreds of visitors who want to know about your business or organization? Staffing our Red Tent is an exclusive benefit for Tourism Partners, and is your opportunity to market your business as you welcome visitors to Howard County! Please join us at these upcoming County events:

GreenFest
Attendance: 2,000 (Local)
Howard Community College Burrill Galleria
Saturday, April 4
10 am - 4 pm

Lanterns of Hope Procession
Attendance: 1,000 (Local)
Columbia Lakefront
Friday, April 24
6 - 9 pm

Howard Life Festival
Attendance: 6,000 (Regional)
GGP Headquarters parking lot
Sunday, April 26
5 am - 4 pm

Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival
Attendance: 40,000 (National)
Howard County Fairgrounds
Sat - Sun, May 2 - 3
9 am - 6 pm

Wine in the Woods
Attendance: 20,000 (Regional)
Symphony Woods
Sat - Sun, May 16 - 17
12 noon - 6 pm

Columbia Triathlon
Attendance: 8,000 (Regional)
Centennial Park
Sunday, May 17
6 am - 2 pm

Rising Star Competition and Howie Awards
Rouse Theatre at Wilde Lake High School

For a full calendar of events, visit the [Calendar](#) link on the Tourism webpage.

Partners receive complimentary listings on our calendar: be sure to send your calendar listings to the [Tourism office](#) at least three weeks in advance, and include date, time and contact information.

Flower Power

This spring Capitol Region USA, a tourism marketing partnership between Maryland, Virginia, and DC is promoting the area as a garden lovers delight for travelers from the UK and Ireland. HCT is culling all the places in Howard County, home of the Blossoms of Hope project, that have "flower power," to promote "spring flings" or "petal peeping." Let us know of any great gardens or flower events or places to view wildflowers so that we can promote YOU! Send your information to rachelina@visithowardcounty.com before March 19.

OUR ADDRESS HAS CHANGED:
Howard County Tourism & Promotion

8267 Main Street, Side Ent.
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043
www.VisitHowardCounty.com
410-313-1900
team@visithowardcounty.com



[JOIN OUR MAILING LIST](#)

If you're interested in taking advantage of these opportunities, call the Tourism office at 410-313-1900.

Welcome New Partners

[Tin Lizzie Wineworks](#): Make your own wine in this fully equipped modern winemaking facility. Located on pristine farmland in western Howard County.

[Patapsco Motor Sports](#): specializing in the sales, service, rental and tours of motor scooters and electric bikes. Located in Historic Ellicott City, PMSport offers environmentally friendly products that offer a FUN and reliable mode of transportation.

[Nighttime Care Centers](#): Provides urgent medical care for common illnesses and minor injuries for adults and children. With doctors, laboratory and x-ray services on site, [Association of Community Services](#): a dynamic network of human services providers and advocates focused on serving families in Howard County.

GreenScape Exhibit Auction & Greenlife Festival Saturday, May 2 - Sunday, May 3 Historic Savage Mill

The Historic Savage Mill, Maryland Public Television and MIX 107.3 FM will partner to host the "GreenLife Festival" May 2 - May 3, celebrating "Green Culture" and benefiting the Chesapeake Bay Foundation. The weekend event will have live music, a Greenscape Art Exhibit and auction, artist demonstrations, soaring Zip Line rides from the new Tourism Partner [Terrapin Adventures](#), merchant specials and much more.

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